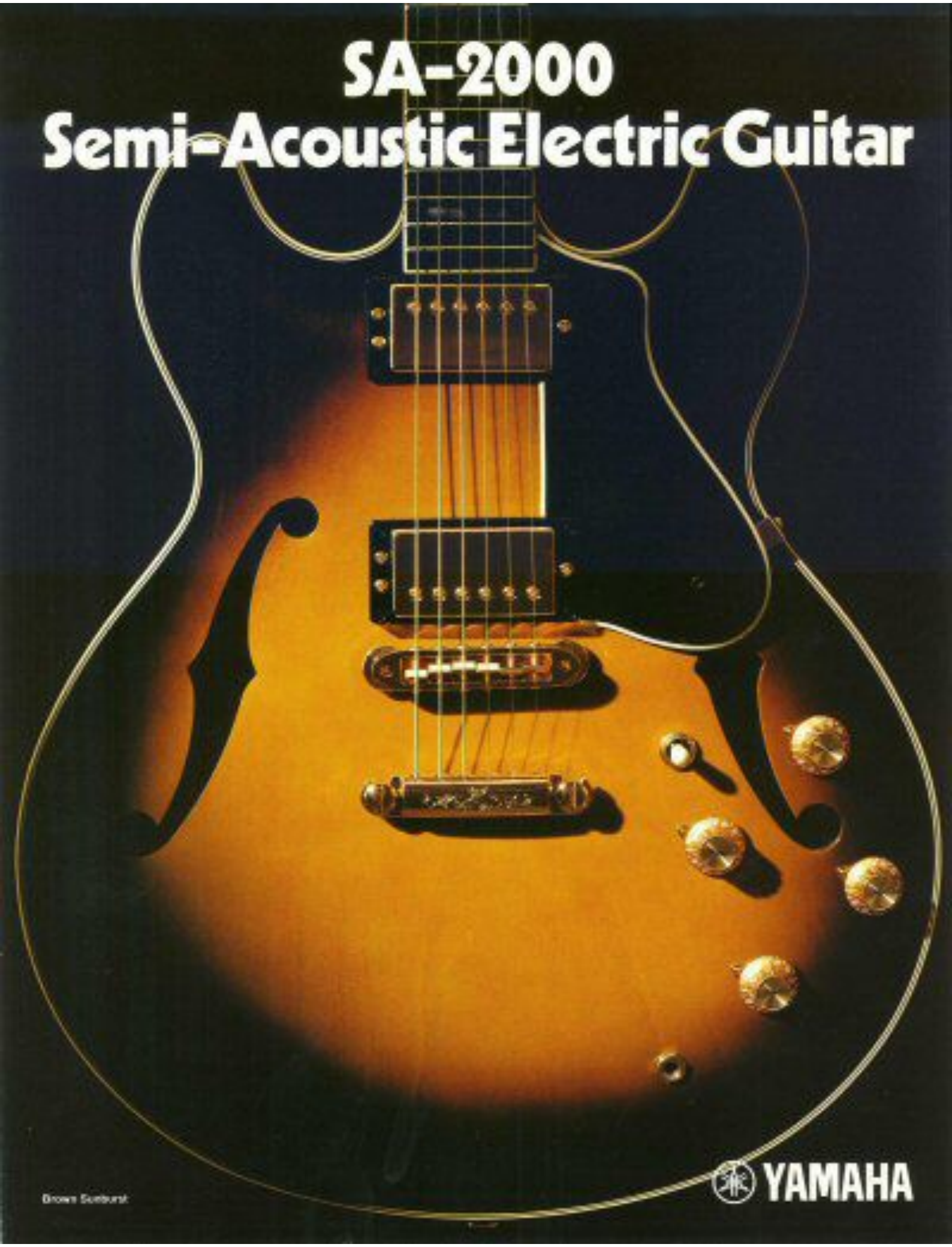
SA-2000
Semi-Acoustic Electric Guitar



Brown Sunburst

YAMAHA

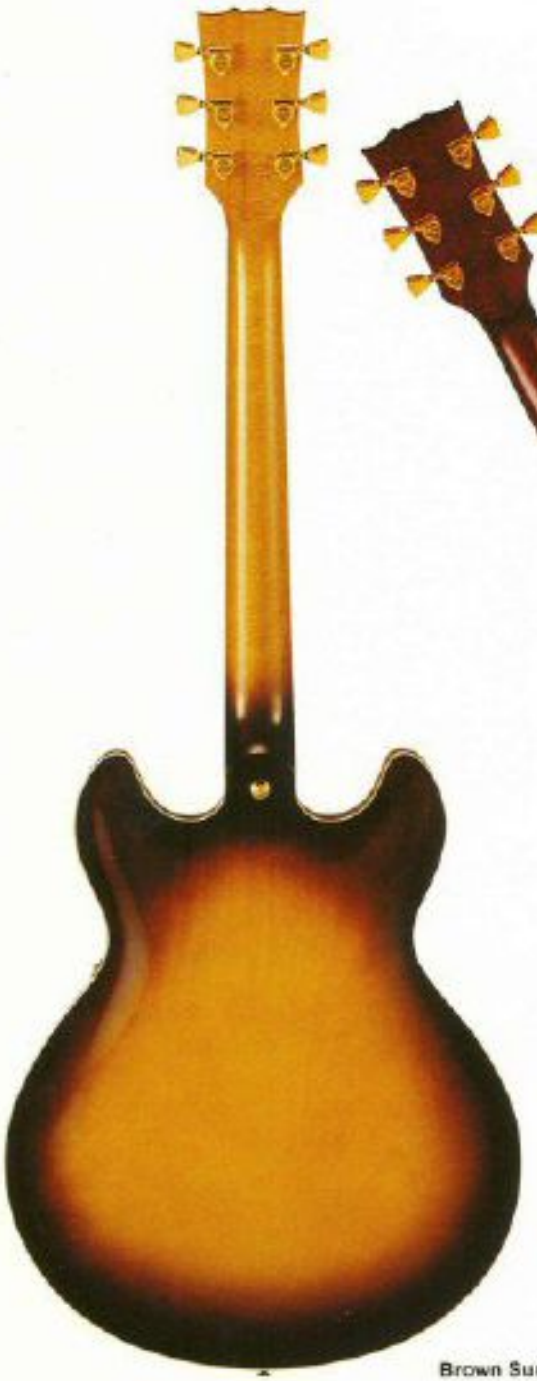
The Semi-Acoustic Guitar that sets a new standard

The semi-acoustic guitar has become a standard instrument for jazz, jazz-rock and the blues. Still, there's always room for improvement, and Yamaha guitar designers felt it was time to see how we might improve upon this favorite style guitar. To do this we studied todays more popular models, working closely with top players, until we identified all the factors that make a great guitar. Then we built many prototypes, evaluated them with the aid of leading professional studio and touring players, and perfected our all new semi-acoustic guitar, the SA-2000. To understand our reasons for creating the SA-2000, it is helpful to review the origins of the semi-acoustic itself.

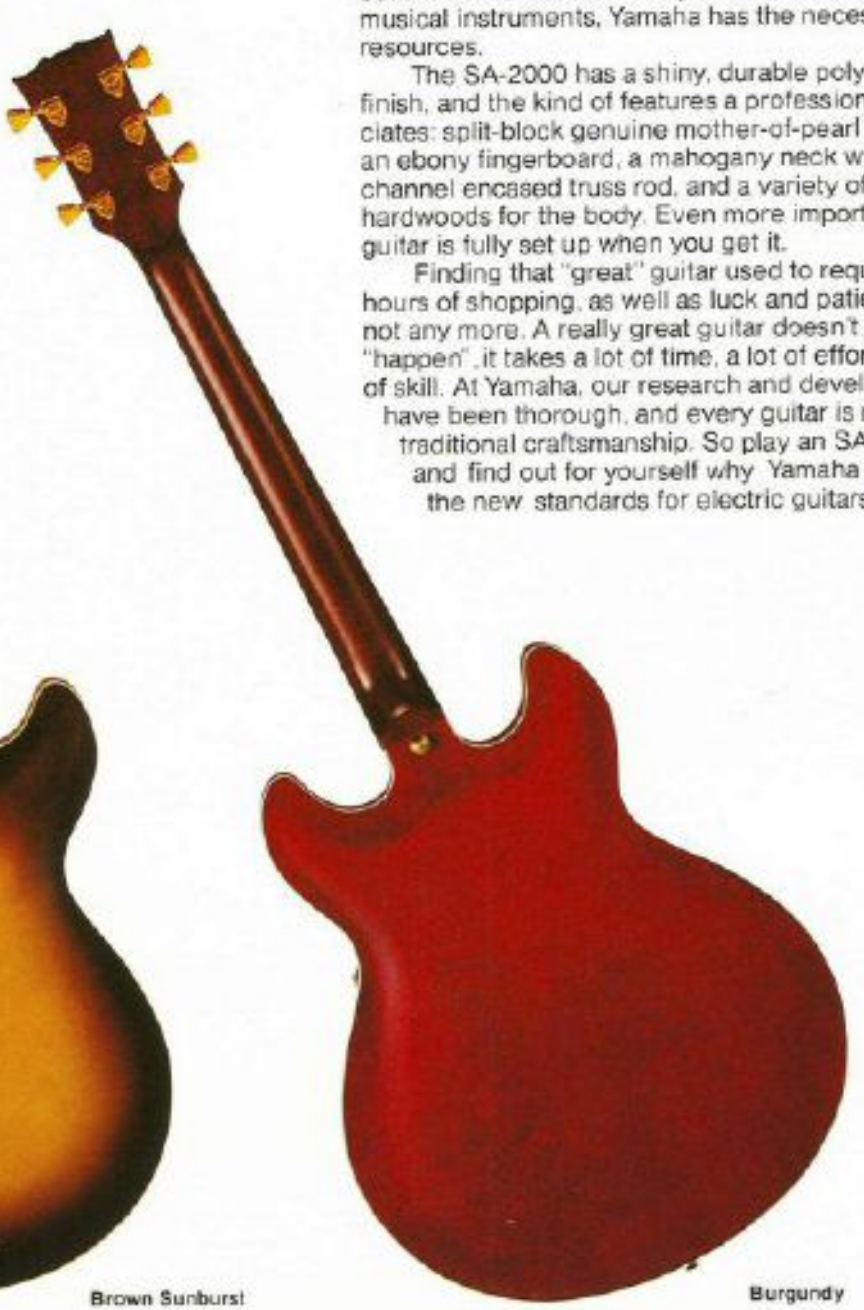
The semi-acoustic guitar grew out of the need for more loudness than a conventional acoustic guitar, yet a more mellow sound than the total electric qualities of solidbodies. We found that if lighter gauge strings could be used, players would enjoy the greater potential for string bending—so long as sustain is not sacrificed. The ideal semi-acoustic guitar would have to deliver plenty of sustain, not feedback-inducing resonance at a few odd frequencies, but a well-balanced sustain on all strings and in all playing registers. For maximum flexibility in playing styles, the fingerboard must be narrow enough and sufficiently curved for the guitarist to bar chords all the way up the neck, yet also needs to be wide enough to allow for fretting complex chords. These qualities are easier to specify than to achieve, but with over 9 decades experience in building fine musical instruments, Yamaha has the necessary resources.

The SA-2000 has a shiny, durable polyurethane finish, and the kind of features a professional appreciates: split-block genuine mother-of-pearl inlays on an ebony fingerboard, a mahogany neck with a U-channel encased truss rod, and a variety of select hardwoods for the body. Even more important, the guitar is fully set up when you get it.

Finding that "great" guitar used to require long hours of shopping, as well as luck and patience, but not any more. A really great guitar doesn't just "happen", it takes a lot of time, a lot of effort, and a lot of skill. At Yamaha, our research and development have been thorough, and every guitar is made with traditional craftsmanship. So play an SA-2000, and find out for yourself why Yamaha is setting the new standards for electric guitars.



Brown Sunburst



Burgundy

Once again we asked the top players what they wanted, then we worked with them to make it happen

Many of today's most popular guitars were designed and built years ago, and are less-than-ideal for contemporary playing styles. So Yamaha set out to design an all-new series of electric guitars that would set new standards for the musical industry, a difficult goal but one that a company with Yamaha's experience and resources could hope to realize.

Yamaha built hundreds of prototype guitars, and put them through extensive testing. We brought them to top professional players for thorough evaluation. In the studio, and on the road, these guitars underwent rigorous testing. Many valuable comments and suggestions in regard to design and engineering were incorporated into still more prototype models. Again, professionals went through every model to determine exactly what features and construction techniques produced the best sound, action and durability. These are the origins of the SA-2000.

Fully Pre-Adjusted

Each and every SA-2000 is thoroughly adjusted and set up by Yamaha. We set the truss rod for precisely the correct tension, and set the action at an ideal playing height. Then we set the individually-adjustable bridge saddles to assure precise intonation. This extra care makes dealer preparation virtually unnecessary. Each guitar comes ready to play, so you don't have to spend time and money "making your guitar right".

If you want to reset any of these adjustments, the guitar comes with a comprehensive instruction manual that explains exactly what the adjustments are, and how to do them.

The Sound

Bend a note or a whole chord. The SA-2000 sings right along. Lay down a driving rhythm track, improvise to your heart's content, or lead the group in a complex melodic line. The SA-2000 responds to your most subtle touch. There's plenty of sustain, but no harsh edge. The sound is articulate, yet mellow and full. It's a sound you've been searching for. We know because we searched with you. We worked with dozens of top U.S. players to identify and create the "ultimate" semi-acoustic tonality.

The Action

Many older but still popular guitars were made for playing styles that differ considerably from contemporary styles. These guitars were often optimized for heavy gauge strings, hence lighter strings frequently do not have mass enough to bring out the full texture or sustain of the instrument. The SA-2000 develops a rich, full tonality because it is made to work with a wide variety strings, from the lightest to the heaviest. The SA-2000 simply will not "thin out", even on the higher strings. In fact, it comes equipped with a set of slinky gauge strings. To create this kind of action, Yamaha blends just the right design, materials and craftsmanship, paying close attention to every detail.

The Woods are an Essential Ingredient

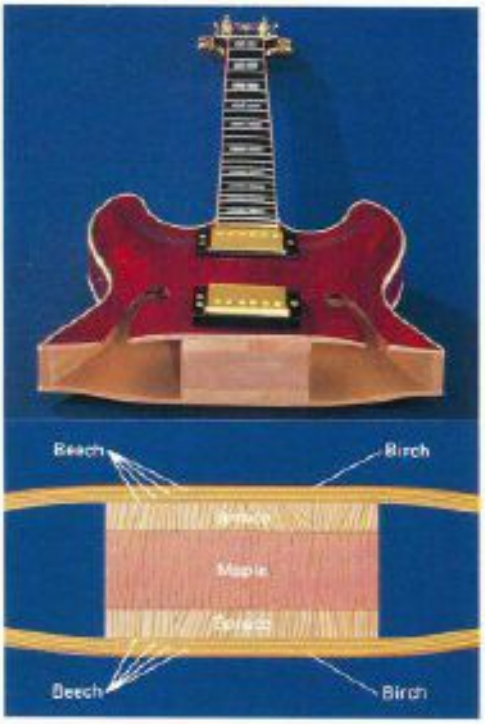
The woods used in the SA-2000 complement each other perfectly, and that's no accident. We experimented with carefully selected woods, including some very rare varieties, from Yamaha's extensive supply of naturally-seasoned woods. The way these woods are assembled also makes a difference. We developed lamination methods and patterns that give maximum strength to the guitar while improving the tone and sustain. It took Yamaha years to combine these factors, scientifically and artistically determining exactly the right woods, the right structure, and the right lamination techniques. Hard work, but the results made it all worthwhile: an audibly better sounding instrument.

The Case for Yamaha

The SA-2000 comes with an exquisite, plush-lined hard shell case. Included with the case is a polishing cloth. The case is an extra touch of luxury, one you'll appreciate as moving on down the road.

There's another case, the case for choosing a Yamaha. Decades of experience making fine musical instruments, and years of electric guitar and guitar amplifier development proceeded Yamaha's SA-2000 electric guitar. Yamaha took the time, pooled its resources, consulted with top professionals, and came up with some of the finest electric guitars in the world. Try one today and find out for yourself.

If playing music is your liveliho
here's one guitar that's lively



Neck and Body Design

The SA-2000 has a laminated center block with a maple core surrounded by sections of spruce; the maple increases sustain which, in turn, is mellowed by the spruce. The guitar's arched top and back are made of birch and beech, while the neck is fabricated from mahogany. This combination of selected woods and laminations enhances the tone and further increases sustain.

The body has a double cutaway that allows full access to the highest frets, so you can easily play those upper registers. The comfortably contoured neck and back further ensure player comfort. The guitar is superbly balanced for playing in either a standing or sitting position.

Real mother-of-pearl split block inlays highlight the appearance of the fingerboard and headstock. Mother-of-pearl has a harder surface than plastic, preventing excessive wear on the fingerboard. It retains its appearance and won't interfere with even the most subtle string bending.

The fingerboard is a handsome piece of fine-grained ebony, chosen for its incomparably smooth and hard surface (much harder and smoother than rosewood). This means you can bend notes as far as you like without friction or "grabbing". The fingerboard has 22-frets and a 24¾" scale length. It has a slight curvature and moderate width to provide playing comfort and convenience, especially with jazz style and block chords. Yet there's still enough room to easily facilitate string bending and rapid single note passages. The wide frets are carefully dressed and allow string bending without fretting out.

The frets are unusually long-wearing, made of an alloy far harder than most, and are dressed to perfection after being seated in the fingerboard. Because they are so hard, and so well polished, friction is minimized, improving string life. The sides of the fingerboard are attractively bound with a trim, so fret edges won't snag your hand. To achieve maximum fret width in the available space, the frets actually overlap the binding.

Controls

The two pickups are precisely spaced on the body to emphasize harmonics. There is a separate volume and tone control circuit for each pickup. The SA-2000 has a conventional 3-way Pickup Selector switch which allows you to use either pickup by itself, or in combination with the other.

You'll appreciate how the SA-2000's Volume controls gradually and smoothly change the level as you rotate them from #1 to #10. This is because Yamaha took the time to find just the right controls: potentiometers with electrical characteristics that are calibrated to the dynamic range of the human ear.

The Tone controls are special, too. Yamaha found the majority of professional players favored a tone control which gradually rolls off the highs, but only into the middle portion, not clear down to the bass range, which would cause a loss of definition. As a result, the SA-2000 has very wide range, useful Tone controls.

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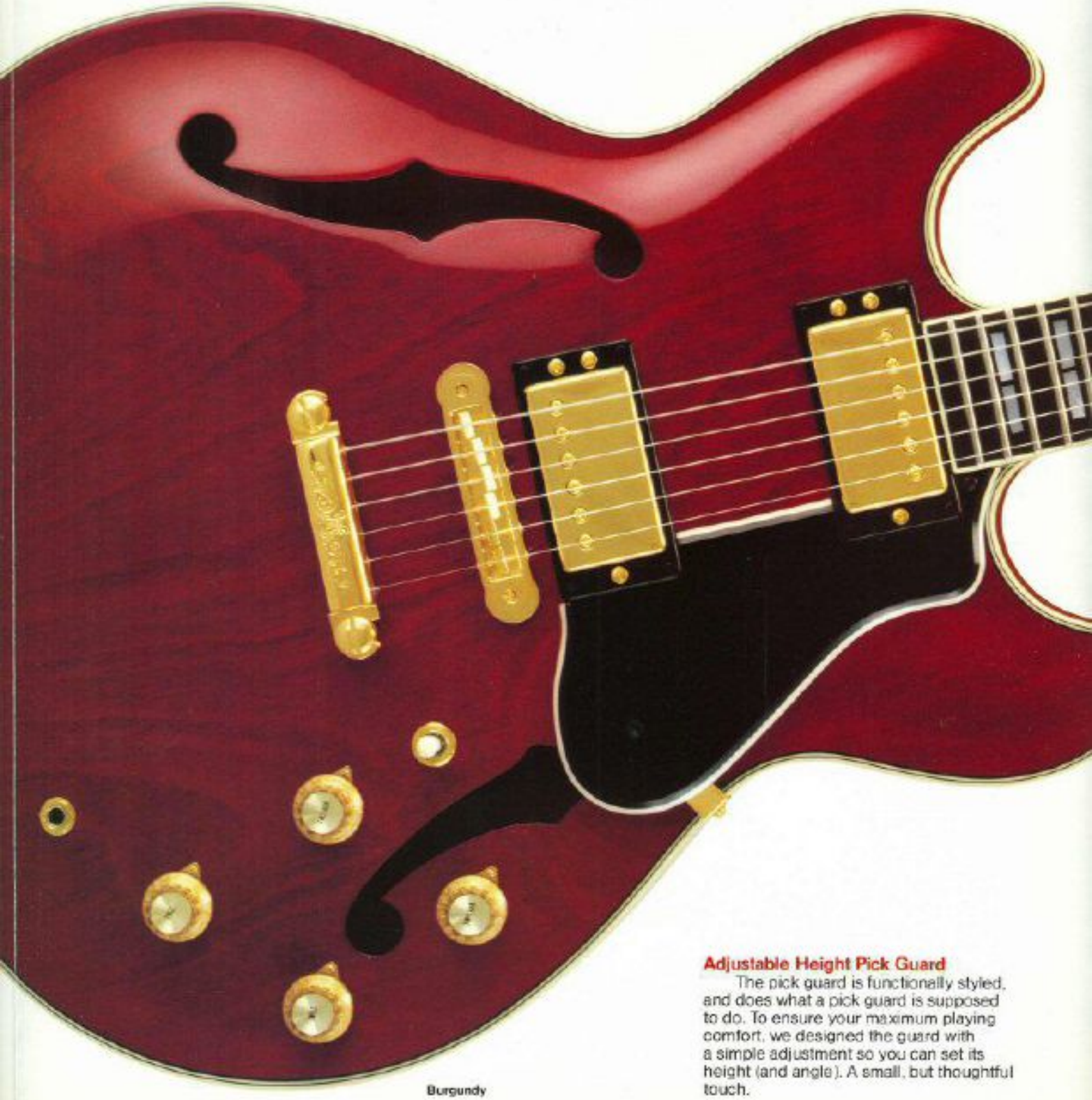
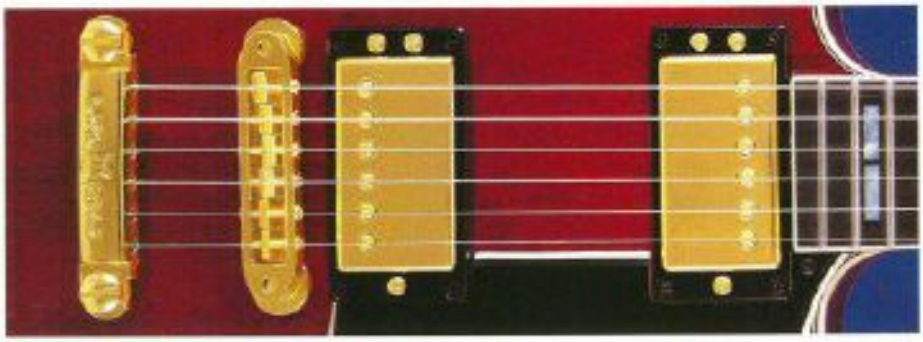
enough for your needs



Burgundy

Adjustable Height Pick Guard

The pick guard is functionally styled, and does what a pick guard is supposed to do. To ensure your maximum playing comfort, we designed the guard with a simple adjustment so you can set its height (and angle). A small, but thoughtful touch.



Hum-Defeating Pickups

Because magnetic pickups are usually high impedance devices, they are particularly susceptible to noise, especially RF fields (CB radio, neon lights, AC hum, etc.). Yamaha has fully shielded the SA-2000 electronics to avoid RF and similarly induced noise. All internal connections have high-density shielding. Special Yamaha-designed pickups avoid electromagnetically induced hum while maintaining smooth frequency response. Each pickup has twin coils, wound out-of-phase, so that any hum field crossing the coils will induce equal but opposite voltages in the pickup; these voltages cancel each other, thereby eliminating the hum.

The pickup is an integral element in creating the sound of any electric guitar. Subtle refinements, such as choice of wire gauge, insulation, winding density, mounting technique, and so forth, all have an effect on the tone. Yamaha worked closely with professional musicians to develop pickups with fat, full, mellow sound—especially on the top two strings. The physical relationship of the pickup polepieces to the strings also has a strong impact on the sound so Yamaha gives you full control of this parameter. The pickups have individually adjustable polepieces, and are tri-mounted to allow parallel adjustment to the strings while simultaneously eliminating rattles.

Adjustable Bridge and Stud-Type Tailpiece

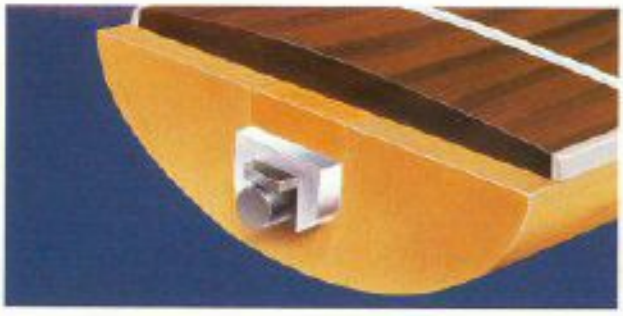
The bridge is custom-designed to allow a large range of height and intonation adjustment on each string, and its heavy-duty construction prevents collapse. Thumb wheels are larger than normal, making adjustment easier. Even if a string breaks, your guitar won't go out of tune because its stud-type tailpiece doesn't flex or wobble, and its adjustable height allows for easy tension adjustments. The stud tailpiece also eliminates sympathetic vibrations between it and the bridge.

Truss Rod

A truss rod reinforces the neck and counteracts the tension created by the strings. Yamaha's steel truss rods are sheathed in a U-shaped aluminum channel and are precurved to distribute their tension smoothly over the entire length of the neck, providing a full range of adjustment. This design, in combination with neck wood of uniform strength and density, virtually eliminates twist and warp. The aluminum channel adds continuity and conductance to the neck, increasing sustain.

Tuning Pegs

The SA-2000 is fitted with what we believe to be the finest tuning pegs available. Yamaha designed these pegs with a 14:1 ratio, substantially higher than other commercial brands. They turn smoothly and have no backlash, so tuning is easy. In addition, Yamaha pegs are permanently lubricated, have adjustable tension, and have spring-loaded mechanisms that automatically take up wear.



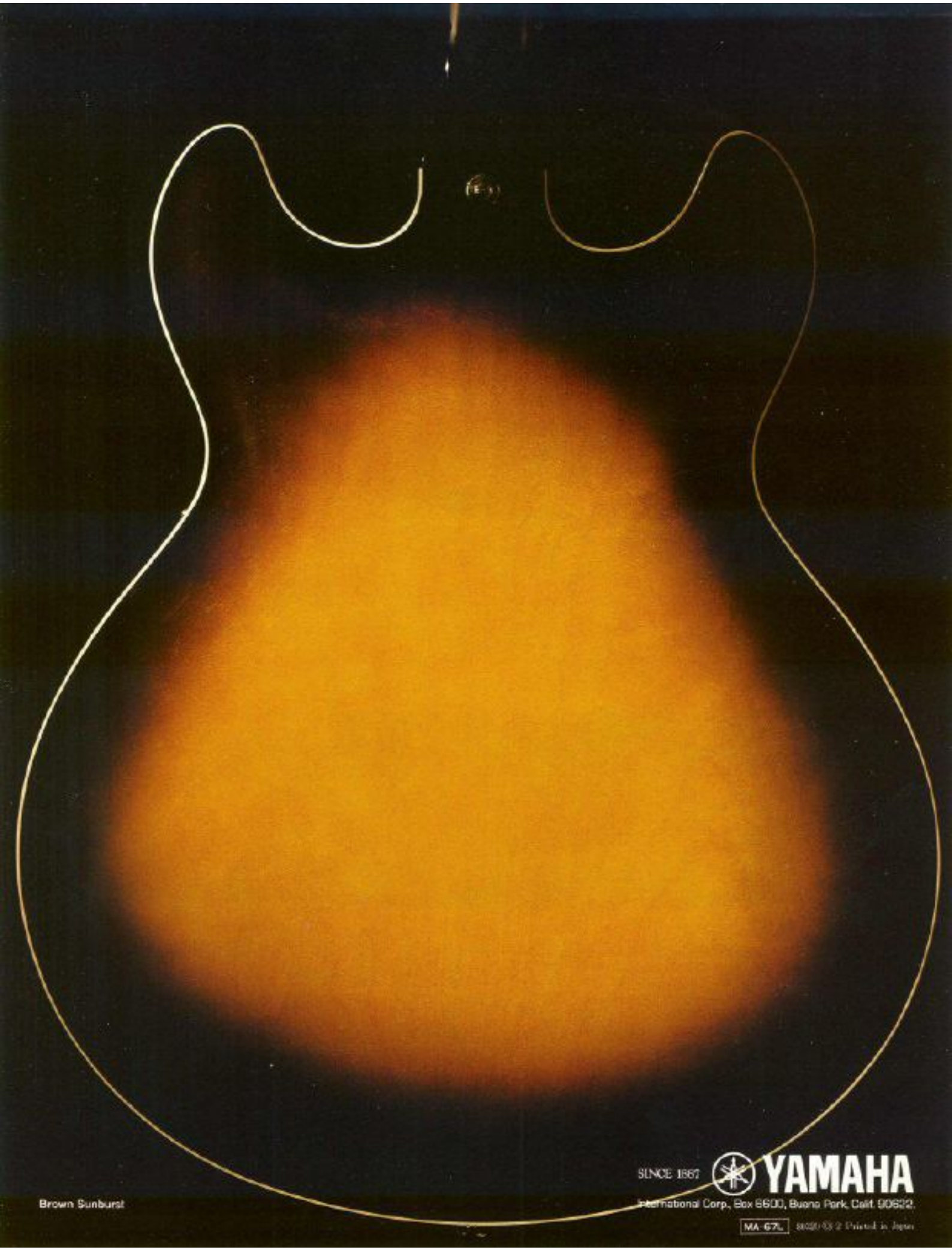
Specifications

Number of Frets	22
Scale Length (nut to bridge)	24¾ inches (626mm)
String Gauges	Regular Slinky (0.010", 0.013", 0.017", 0.026", 0.036", 0.046")
Overall Length	43⅜ inches (1,099.5mm)
Tuning Peg Ratio	14:1
Pickups	Two anti-hum, full-sounding, metal shielded pickups
Finish	High-gloss polyurethane
Colors	Brown sunburst, Burgundy
Net Weight	9.3 pounds (4.2kg)
Case Dimensions (max.)	44½" high × 18" wide × 4¾" deep (1,130 × 459 × 120mm)
Warranty	One (1) year, parts and labor

Accessories Supplied with the Guitar

Hard Case (Model SAD),
Vinyl Case,
Hexagonal Wrench,
Phillips Head Screwdriver,
Patch Cord,
Leather Strap,
Polishing Cloth,
Pick

Replacement parts are available through your Yamaha dealer.
Specifications subject to change without notice or obligation.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